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# X-MEN

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BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
C.C.  
AUTHORITY



"THE  
**WARLOCK**  
**WAKES!**"

### THROW YOUR VOICE



Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. Fool teacher, friends and family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist." No. 137 \$25

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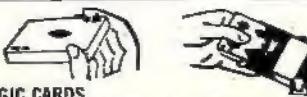


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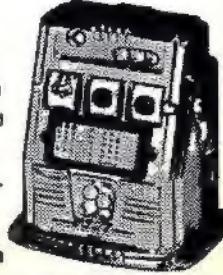
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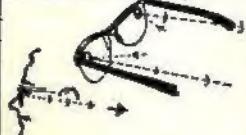
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**X-MEN! THE MOST UNUSUAL FIGHTING TEAM OF ALL TIME!**

# "THE MARLOCK WAKES!"

**OUR PULSATIN' PRELUDE:**  
RECUPERATING FROM THEIR BATTLE WITH THE SINISTER SUPER-ADACTOID (LAST ISH), THE X-MEN ARE ABOUT TO BEGIN AN OVERDUE SESSION IN THE DANGER ROOM. WHEN, SUDDENLY--BUT LOOK FOR YOURSELF!!

**WHO IS... MARLOCK?**  
AND WHAT'S HIS PHANTASTIC, MAGICAL, FATE-DOING PLAN (HANG MEANINGLESSLY, FOR TIGER LOOSE, THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE IS REALLY GONE, GONE, GONE YA!)

HEADS UP, MY COSTUMED COMPERS! TELL THE BEWILDERED BEAST THAT HE ISN'T A VICTIM OF HALLUCINATIONS!

TELL ME THAT I DON'T BEHOLD A GIANT, GLOWING HAND MATERIALIZING FROM THIN AIR!

NO CAN DO, HANK! I SEE IT, TOO! AND IT'S DRAWING US TO IT-- LIKE A MAGNET!

DON'T TRY TO FIGHT BACK, ANY OF YOU--NOT TILL WE FIND OUT WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST!

BUT, WHAT KIND OF BEING COULD BE ATTACKING US THIS WAY-- AND WHY?

I DON'T KNOW-- BUT, I'VE GOT A HUNCH WE'RE GONNA FIND OUT-- AND FAST!

**BULLETIN FOR ART BUFFS:**  
SINCE WONDROUS WERNER ROTH IS SO BUSY WORKING ON OUR NEXT SCINTILLATING STORY, WE GOT ANOTHER TITANIC TALENT TO FILL IN FOR HIM THIS ISH. (AND NOW, ON WITH OUR CUSTOMARY CONFUSING CREDITS!)

**STAN LEE,**  
EDITOR

**ROY THOMAS,**  
SCRIPTER

**JACK SPARLING,**  
DESIGNER

**JOHN TARTAGLIONE,**  
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THE NEXT INSTANT, THE VERY ATMOSPHERE ITSELF SEEMS TO FORM AN UNYIELDING, EBONY FUNNEL...A FUNNEL THRU WHICH THE ASTONISHED MUTANTS ARE DRAWN--ABRUPTLY, IRRESISTIBLY...

THE HAND--OR  
WHATEVER IT IS--  
IS RECEDED,  
AND--IT'S PULLING  
US WITH IT!

WERE LIKE  
TINY CHIPS OF  
WOOD--CAUGHT  
IN THE GRIP  
OF A SURGING  
CURRENT!

JEAN--DON'T  
LET GO OF MY  
HAND! WE'VE  
ALL GOT TO  
STAY  
TOGETHER--  
NO MATTER  
WHAT!

I--I'M TRYING,  
WARREN! BUT, THE  
FORCE IS UNBELIEV-  
ABLE! I DON'T KNOW  
HOW LONG I CAN  
HOLD ON!

AND AS IF  
IN ANSWER TO  
MARVEL GIRL'S  
DESPERATE  
WORDS, THE  
FANTASTIC  
MAGNETIC  
ATTRACTION  
SEEMS TO  
VISIBLY  
INCREASE,  
AND...

IT'S PULLING  
JEAN MORE  
POWERFULLY  
THAN THE REST  
OF US--LIKE  
SHE'S THE ONE  
IT'S REALLY  
AFTER!

I'VE BEEN WRENCHED  
FREE OF THE ANGEL--

WARREN--USE  
YOUR WINGS!  
I CAN'T REACH  
YOU--!

IT'S NO GOOD,  
JEAN! MY WINGS  
ARE USELESS  
AGAINST SUCH  
POWER!

JUST HANG ON!  
WE'LL GET TO YOU  
SOMEHOW--  
SWEAR IT!

COULD  
MAGNETO  
BE  
BEHIND  
THIS?

COMPARED  
TO OUR  
PRESENT  
FOE, LAD,  
MAGNETO WAS  
AN APPARENT  
AMATEUR!

HOWEVER, BEFORE ANOTHER WORD CAN BE UTTERED, ANOTHER SYLLABLE  
SPOKEN...

THAT IMAGE OF A  
HAND HAS RECEDED  
EVEN FARTHER--  
BUT NOW, IT SEEMS  
TO HAVE STOPPED!

THE BLACK MIST  
SEEMS TO BE  
SLOWLY FADING!  
THRU IT, I CAN  
SEE LIGHT--AND  
ROCKY HILLS!

MUST FIND OUT WHERE  
OUR UNSEEN CAPTOR  
HAS DRAWN ME--  
THEN, MUST TRY TO  
MENTALLY CONTACT  
THE PROFESSOR!





THEN, AS THE WEIRDLY-GARBED WIZARD LIFTS THE INVALID PROFESSOR X FROM HIS WHEELCHAIR, A TRIO OF TRULY UNIQUE STALLIONS ALIGHTS ON THE GROUND AMIDST A FLUTTER OF SILVER WINGS...

MAGIC? NO, MY DEAR-- DESPITE THE COLORFUL NAME BY WHICH I CHOOSE TO BE KNOWN, THERE IS NOTHING MYSTICAL ABOUT ME, OR THE SPLENDID STEEDS YOU SEE BEFORE YOU!

RATHER, THEY ARE THE PRODUCTS OF SCIENCE! LIKE YOURSELVES, THEY ARE MUTANTS-- BUT MUTANTS OF MY CREATION!

THEY'RE-- BEAUTIFUL!

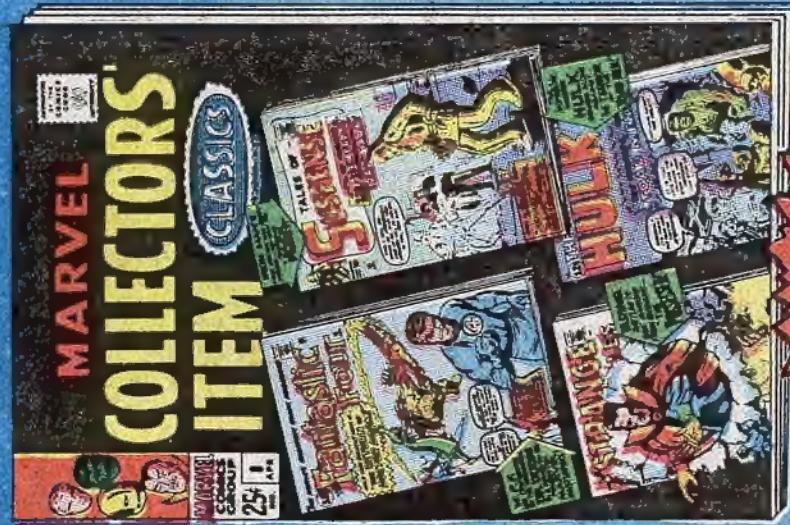
THE WARLOCK'S PUT JEAN INTO SOME SORT OF TRANCE! THUS, SHE CAN'T USE HER TELEKINETIC POWERS TO FREE US!

WE SEEM TO BE IN THE NEW ENGLAND HILLS! BUT, WHAT OF THE OTHER X-MEN? WHERE WERE THEY DRAWN BY THE WARLOCK?

IF YOU'RE STILL A BIT PERPLEXED, PUSSYCAT, DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP! WE'LL TRY TO GET EVERYTHING CLEARED UP IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF PAGES-- SO STICK AROUND, HEAR?

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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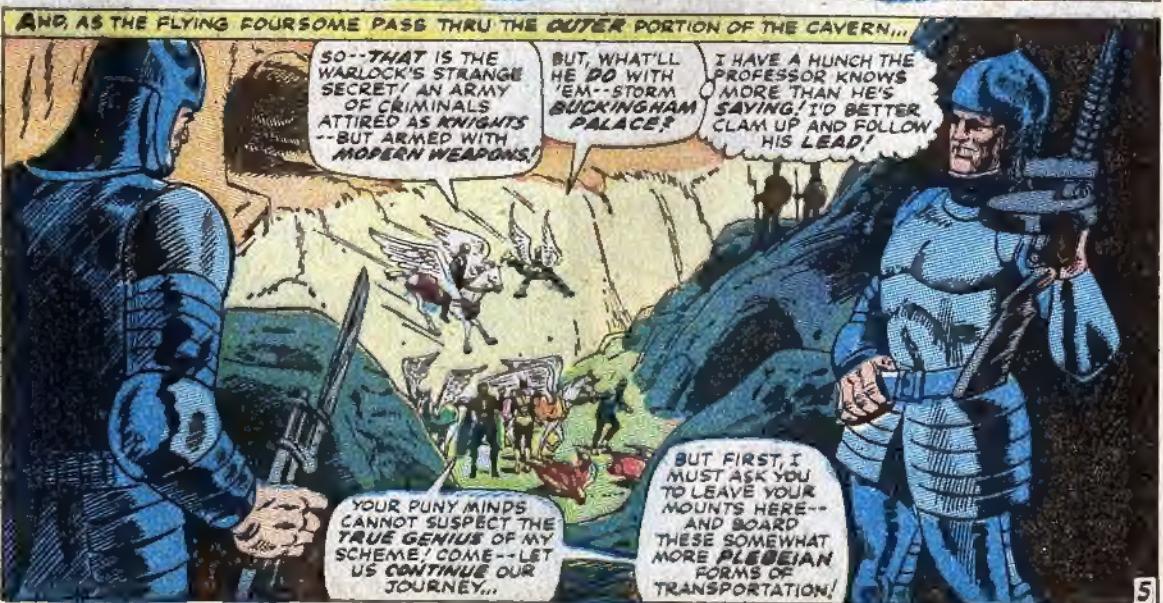
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Last Name  
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SCANT SECONDS LATER,  
THE COLORFUL QUARTET  
ARE ON THE MOVE ONCE  
AGAIN...

WINGED HORSES--  
AND NOW ONE-MAN  
HOVERCRAFT! WHAT'S  
BEHIND THIS BLENDING  
OF ANCIENT LEGEND  
AND MODERN SCIENCE,  
WARLOCK?

BECAUSE IT PLEASES ME, I SHALL  
EXPLAIN MY MASTER PLAN  
TO YOU--WHEN WE ARRIVE  
AT MY... HEADQUARTERS!

UP AHEAD... I SEE  
LIGHTS!

AH--I SEE  
YOUR CURIOSITY  
IS AROUSED, MY  
GOOD  
PROFESSOR!

COME,  
PROFESSOR...  
AND BEHOLD A  
SIGHT THAT WILL  
DAZZLE EVEN  
YOUR HOMO  
SUPERIOR  
SENSES!

THE NEXT MOMENT, THE GRANDIOQUENT BOAST OF THE ENIGMATIC WARLOCK IS MADE GOOD,  
AS THE FOUR AIRBORNE FIGURES EMERGE UPON AN INCREDIBLE SCENE--A MADDENING,  
KALEIDOSCOPIC MIXTURE OF PAST AND PRESENT...A TIME-DEFYING WORLD THAT NEVER  
WAS...

WE'RE IN SOME MAMMOTH  
SUBTERRANEAN CAVERN  
--HEADING TOWARDS A  
FULL-SCALE REPLICA OF A  
MEDIÆVAL ENGLISH CASTLE!

EVEN MORE AMAZINGLY,  
THE RAMPARTS OF THE  
CASTLE ARE TOPPED WITH  
EARTH-TO-AIR MISSILES  
...POINTED TOWARDS MAN-  
MADE SNAFFTS IN THE  
CAVERN WALL!

THAT'S NOT ALL!  
LOOK--THERE ARE  
SUB PENS BELOW!

AND--TAKE A PEEK  
AT ALL THAT RADAR  
EQUIPMENT! BUT,  
WHAT GOOD WILL IT  
DO DOWN HERE?

THOSE RADAR DEVICES  
HAVE BEEN MODIFIED,  
ANGEL--SO THAT THEY  
ARE NOW INTEGRAL  
PARTS OF MY  
ULTIMATE WEAPON!

FOR, WITH THAT  
WEAPON, I SHALL  
BRING MODERN  
MAN'S WORLD  
CRASHING DOWN  
AROUND HIM--AND  
USHER IN THE RULE  
OF...THE WARLOCK!

THERE'S THE  
BOSS--ON  
TIME, JUST  
LIKE HE  
SAID HE'D  
BE!

BUT, HE'S GOT  
SOME OF THEM  
MUTANT GUYS  
WITH 'IM! WHAT'S  
HE WANT  
THEM FOR?

I DON'T KNOW--  
BUT HE LOOKS  
LIKE HE'S GOT  
'EM UNDER  
CONTROL!

AND, AS LONG  
AS HE PAYS  
US GOOD, I  
SURE AINT  
COMPLAININ'!!

THEN, INSIDE HIS STRANGE UNDER-GROUND STRONGHOLD, THE SUPREMELY CONFIDENT WARLOCK UNVEILS MORE OF HIS MASTER PLAN...



"BUT, BEING A SUPER-HUMAN MUTANT, I SURVIVED IN A COMA-LIKE STATE, AND AWARE IN YOUR PERIOD OF HISTORY, ONLY TO FIND MY WIL, TO POWER OPPOSED BY THOR, THE MIGHTY THUNDER GOD HIMSELF!"

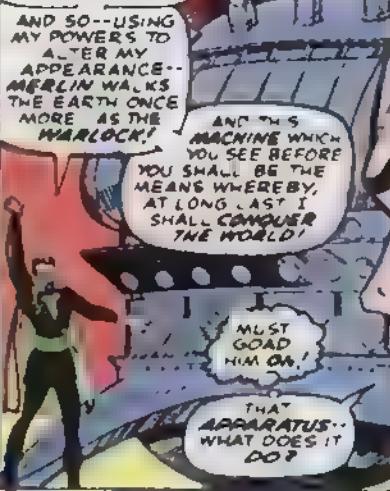
I HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN AS THE WARLOCK! MANY CENTURIES AGO, ORDINARY HOMO SAPIENS KNEW ME AS, MERLIN THE MAGICIAN!

\*AS RELATED IN THOR #96 AND THOR ANNUAL #2 --DOUBLE-PLUGGER STAN.

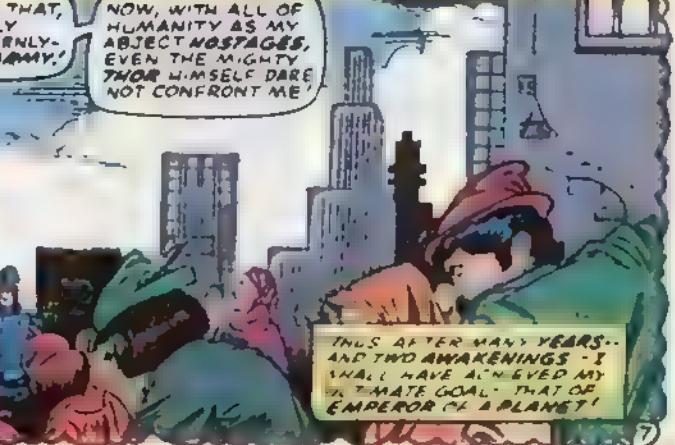
"FINALLY, HOWEVER, THE IMMORTAL AVENGER TRICKED ME INTO RETURNING TO MY CRYPT IN A NEW YORK MUSEUM WHERE I WAS TO SLEEP FOR YET ANOTHER MILLENNIUM!"



YET THOR DID NOT KNOW THAT I HAD DECEIVED HIM! FOR, MY MUTANT SENSES TELL ME THAT HE HAS BEEN ABSENT FROM EARTH FOR MANY WEEKS!



"THIS 'APPARATUS' IS THE SUPREME INVENTION OF MY MUTANT GENIUS! POWERED BY MY OWN POWERFUL BRAIN, IT WILL TURN THE MINDS OF MERE MORTALS BACKWARD--TO THE LEVEL OF MANKIND AT THE TIME OF KING ARTHUR! THEN, THEY SHALL NOT HAVE THE SCIENTIFIC WEAPONS OR SKILL TO OPOSE THE FORCES OF THE WARLOCK!"



IT IS FORTUNATE THAT, WHILE STILL IN MY CRYPT, I COULD MENTALLY ORGANIZE GANGS OF CRIMINALS INTO A MODERNLY-EQUIPPED ARMY!

NOW, WITH ALL OF HUMANITY AS MY ABJECT HOSTAGES, EVEN THE MIGHTY THOR HIMSELF DARE NOT CONFRONT ME!

THUS, AFTER MANY YEARS--AND TWO AWAKENINGS--I SHALL HAVE ACHIEVED MY ULTIMATE GOAL--THAT OF EMPEROR OF A PLANET!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



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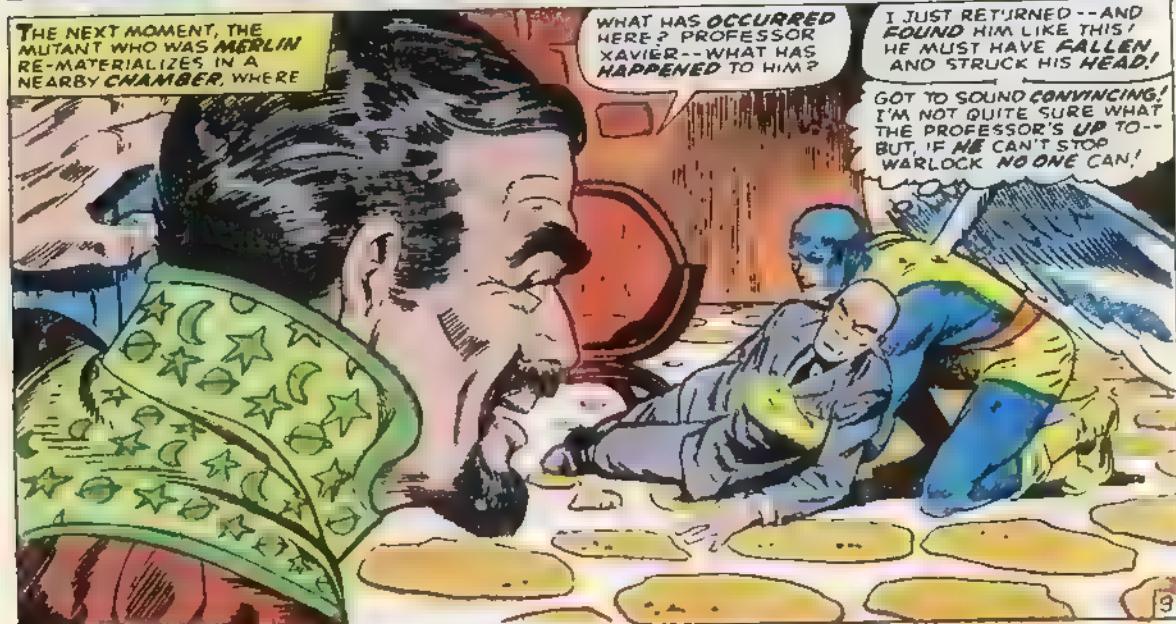
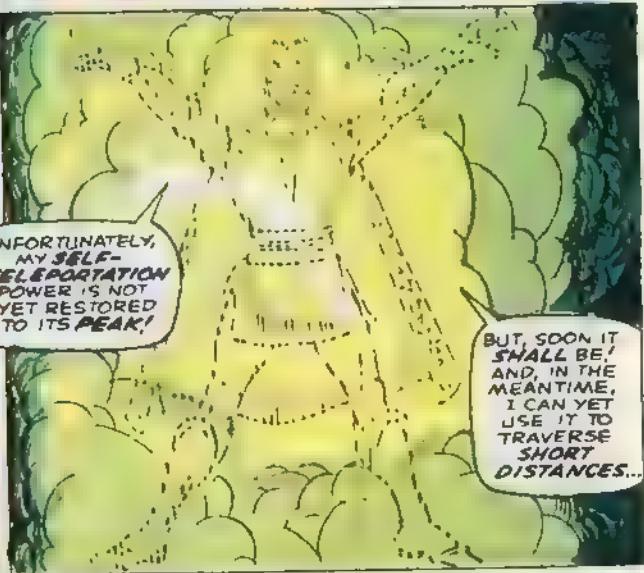
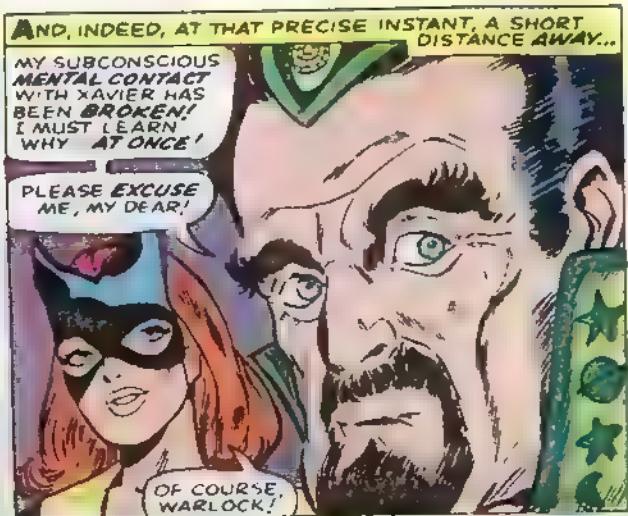
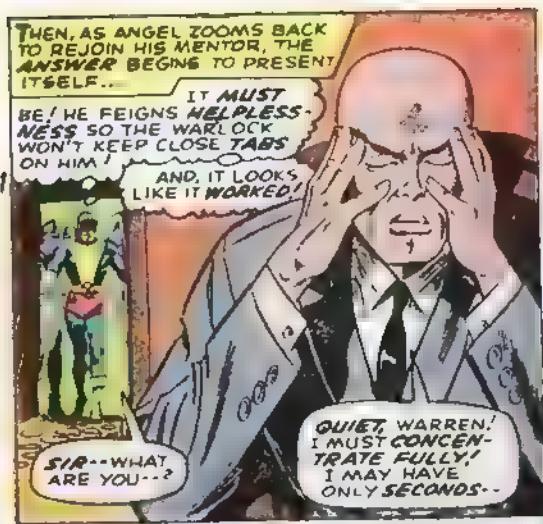


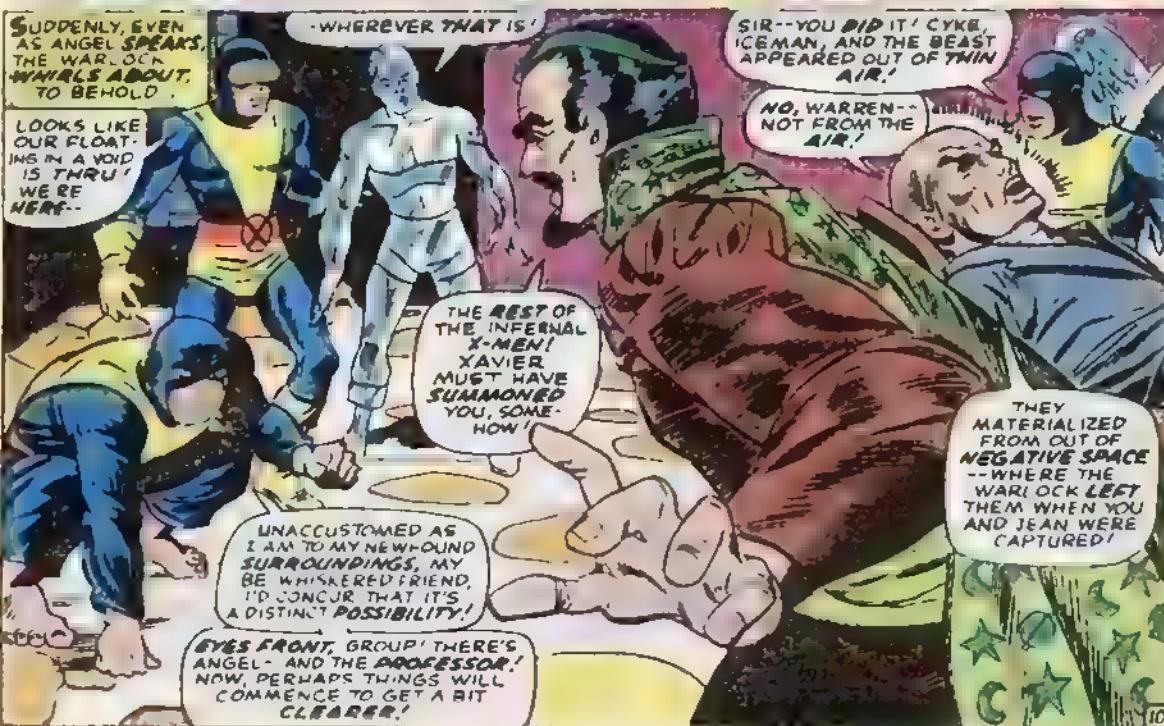
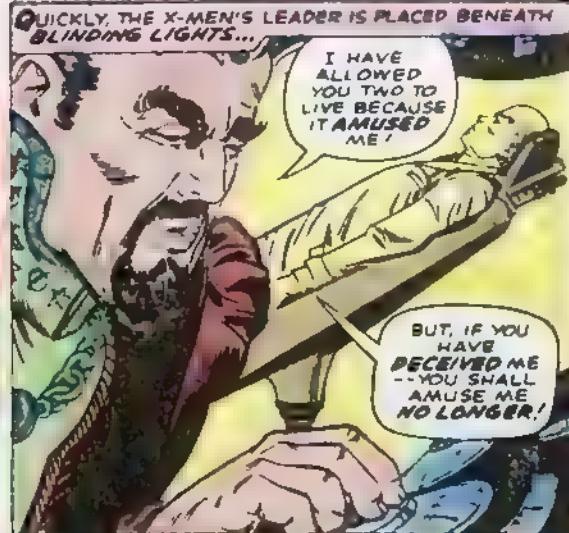
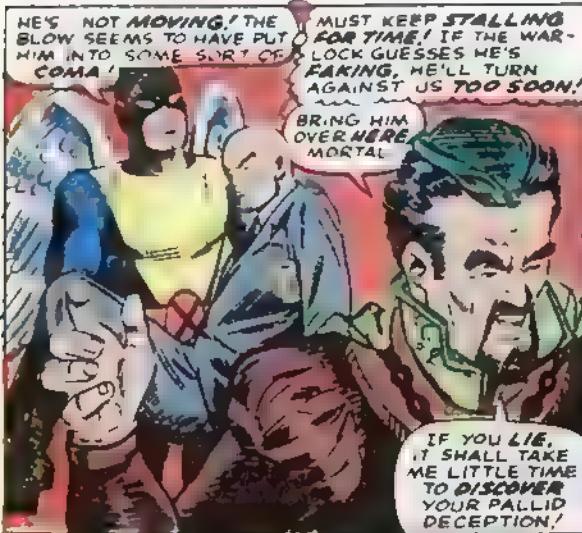
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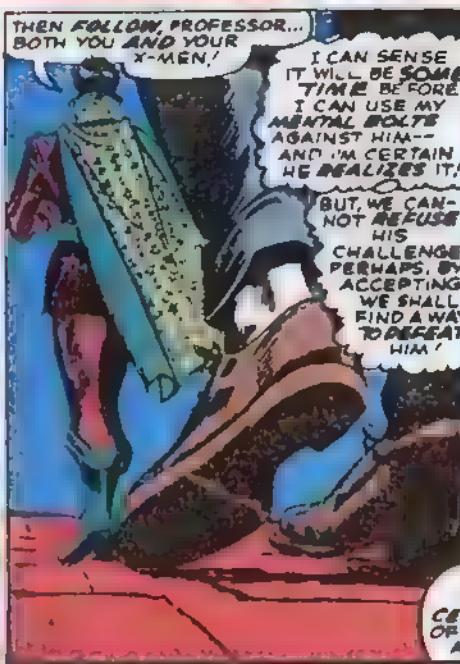
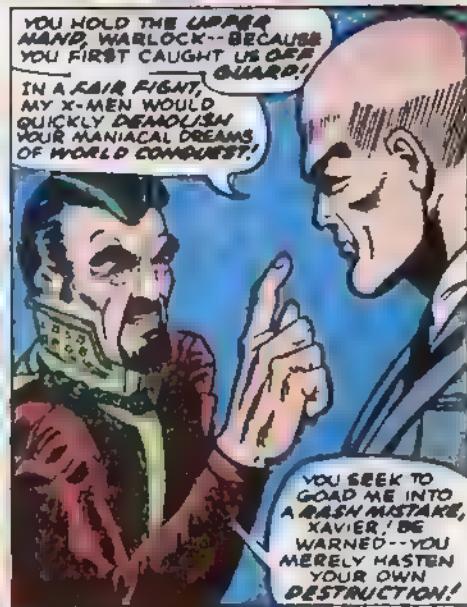
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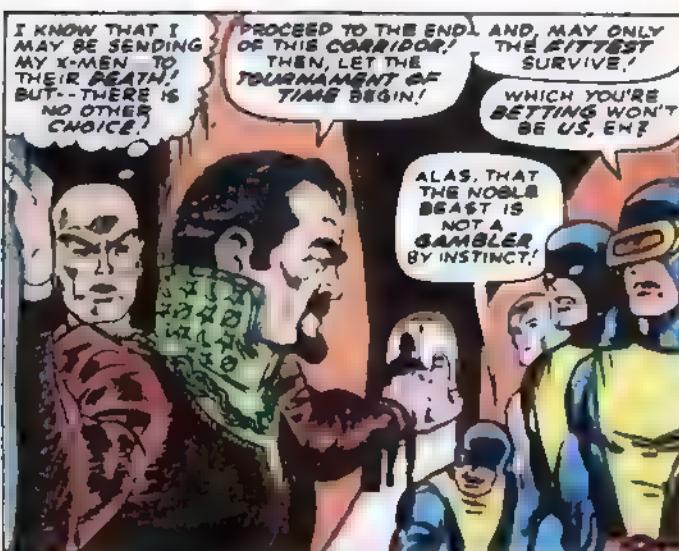
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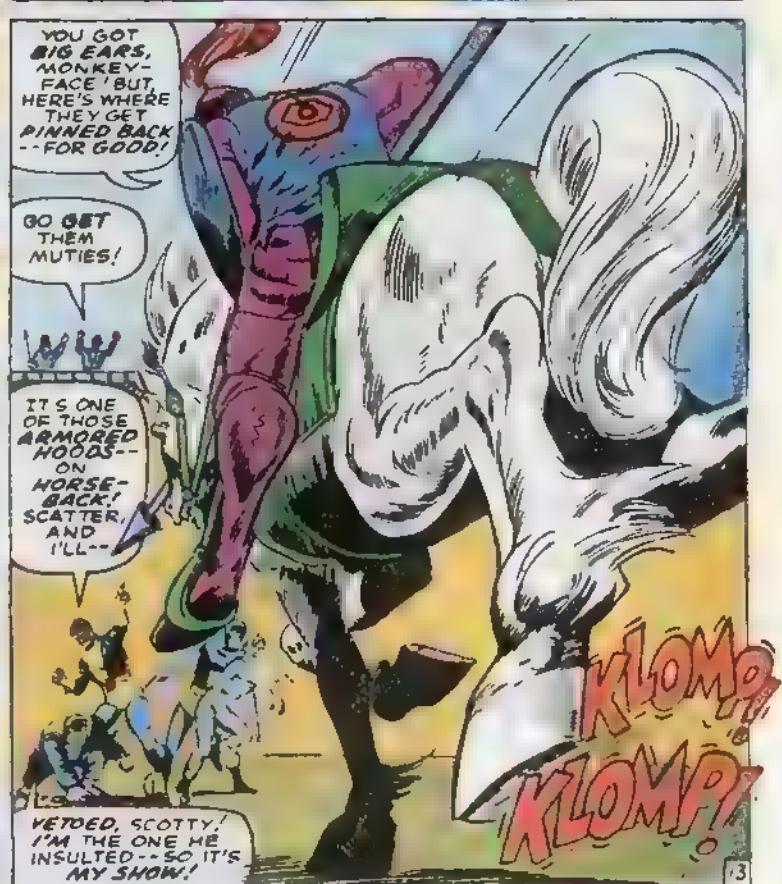
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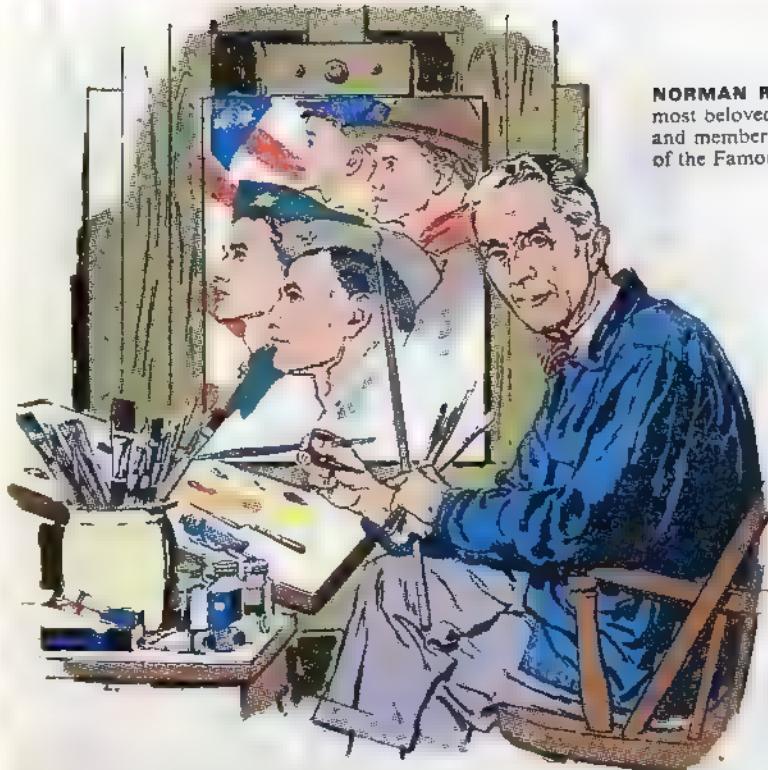








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**NORMAN ROCKWELL**—America's most beloved artist. He is a founder and member of the Guiding Faculty of the Famous Artists Schools.

into good artists Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school!—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students—not geniuses—who can step into full time or part-time art jobs. And practical thorough training is what the School offers.

**"We're looking for  
people who like to draw"**

says **NORMAN ROCKWELL**

Today hundreds of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working at easels and drawing boards, making pictures and getting well paid for it. They all can thank a group of famous artists who have devoted much of their time and talent to helping others find success in art.

### Some of the People the Famous Artists Have Helped

Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist—last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he

became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training, Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artist—with a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

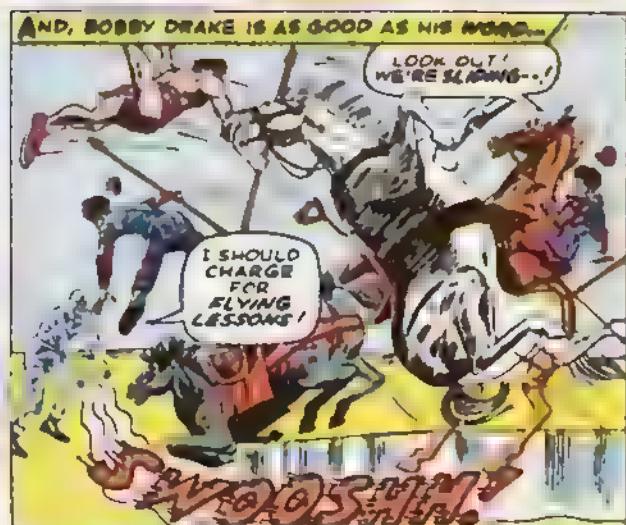
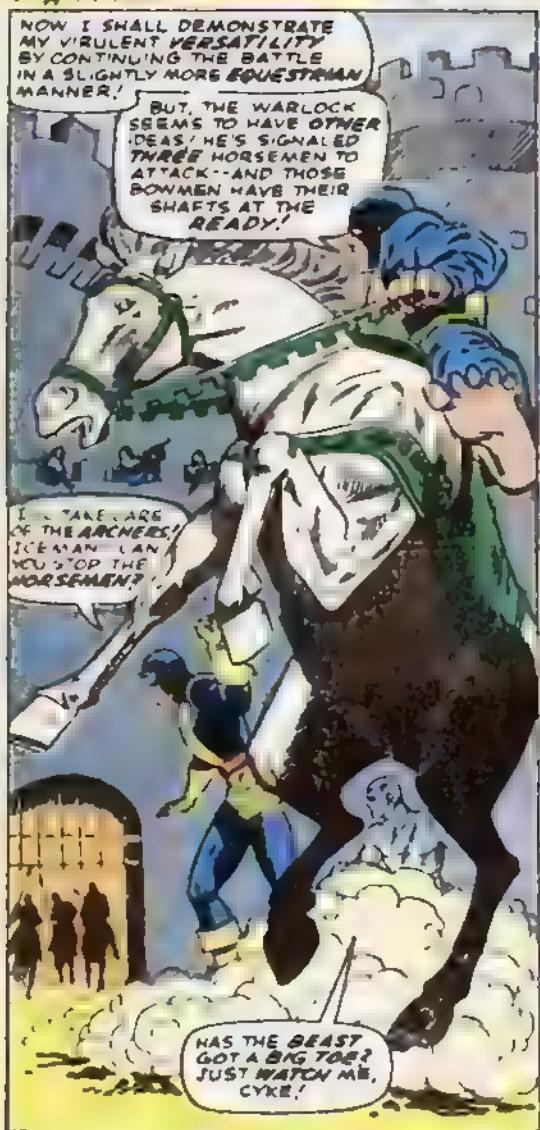
#### **A Plan to Help Others**

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned

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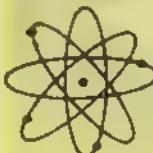
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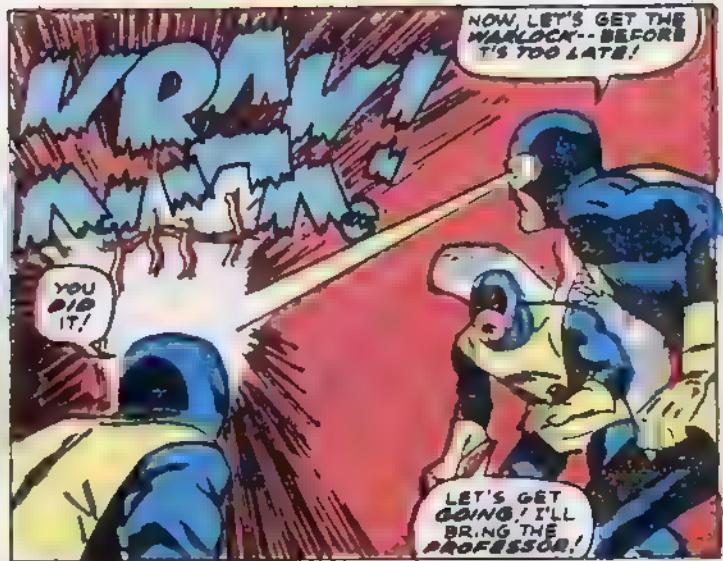
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IT'S SO QUIET--SO SILENT--AS IF WE'RE BEING WATCHED!

PERHAPS WE ARE, SCOTT--AT LEAST MENTALLY!

WE ARE NEARING THE WARLOCK'S ANSENSE IT!

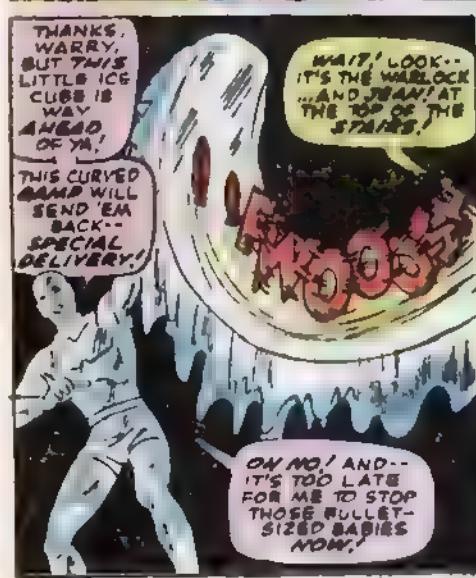


AND, ALMOST AS HANK MCCOY SPEAKS...

TUMAH--I: POCKET-SIZED PROJECTILES--!

AND PACKED WITH ECONOMY SIZE EXPLOSIVES, OR I MISS MY GUESS! LUCKILY, THEY DON'T MOVE AT TOO HIGH A SPEED!

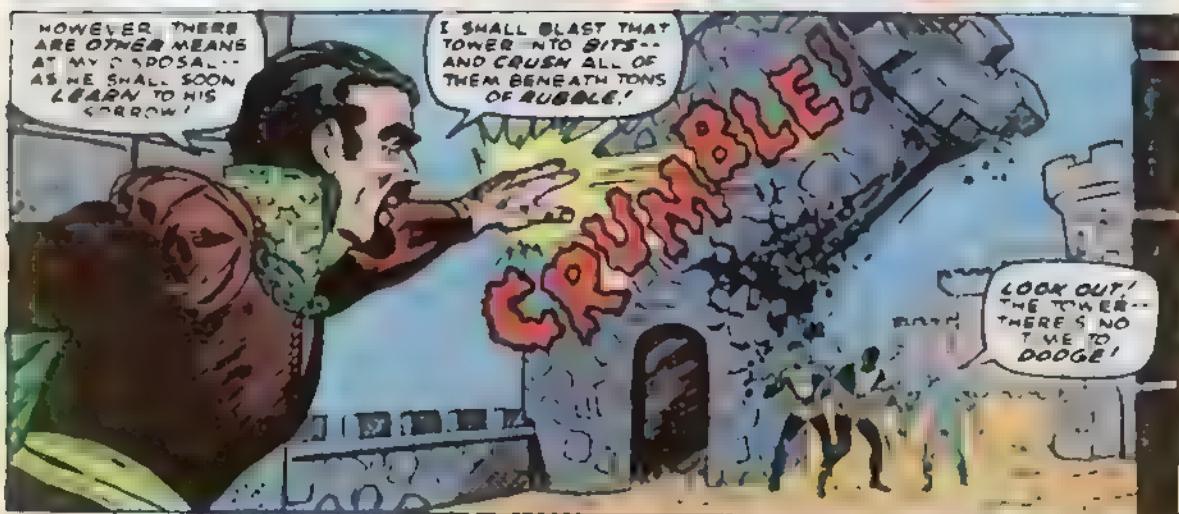
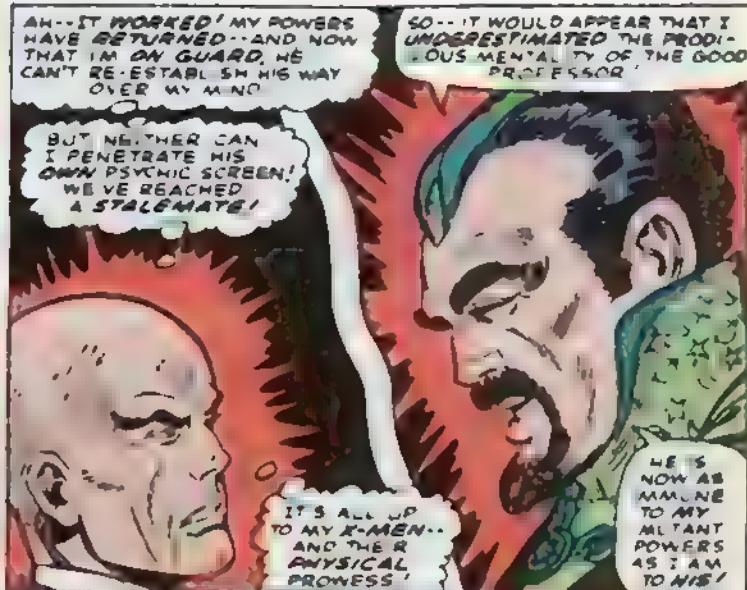
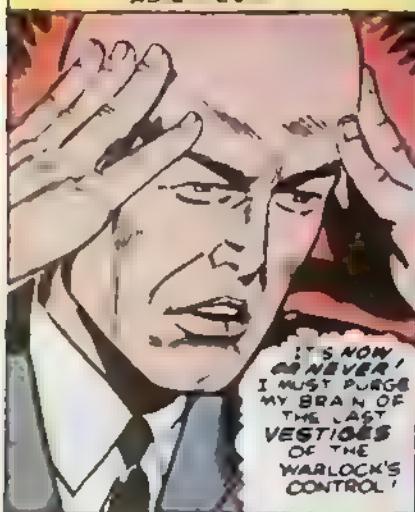
HEADS UP, BOBBY! THEY'RE HEADING STRAIGHT AT YOU!

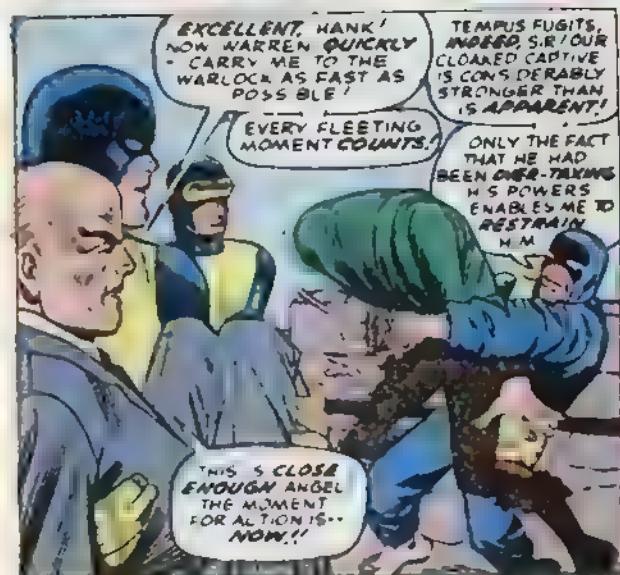
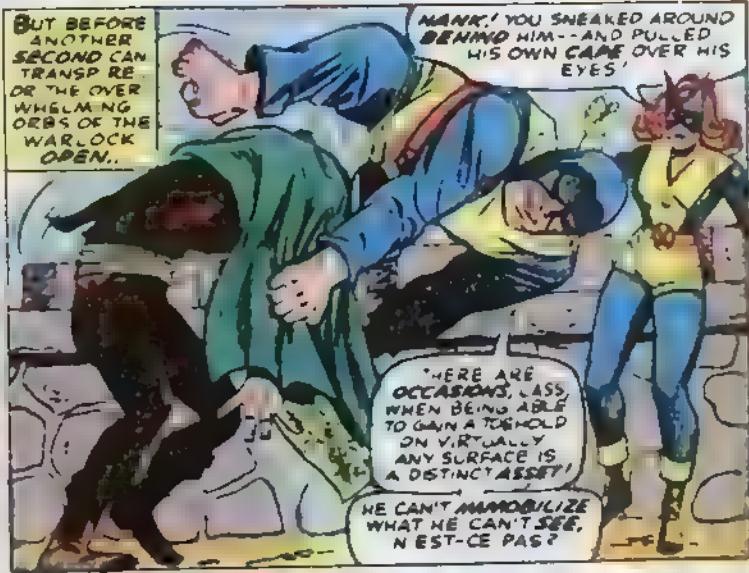
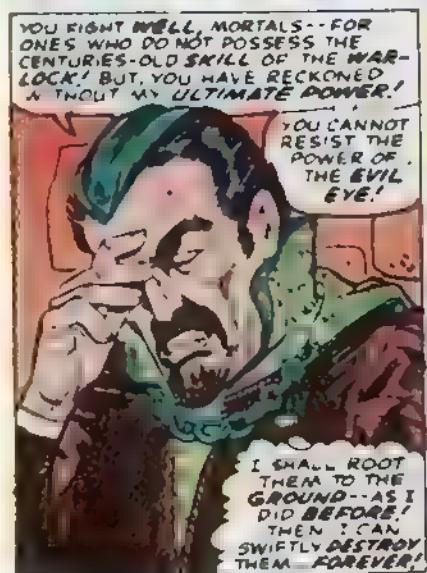


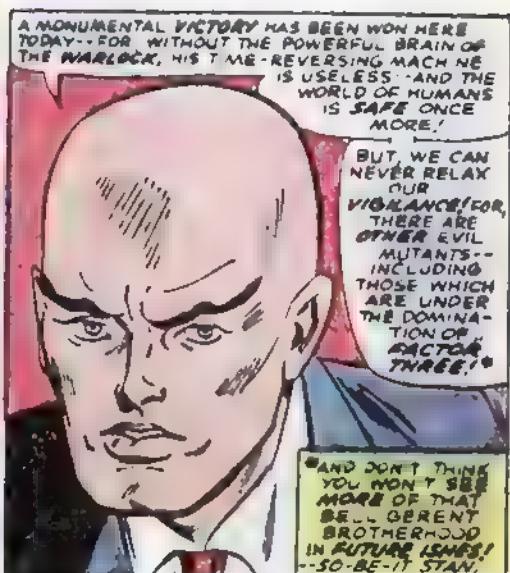
MEANWHILE AS JEAN STRUGGLES TO FREE HER MIND PROFESSOR X TESTS HIS OWN RESURGING ABILITIES

AH--IT WORKED! MY POWERS HAVE RETURNED--AND NOW THAT I'M ON GUARD, HE CAN'T RE-ESTABLISH HIS WAY OVER MY MIND.

SO--IT WOULD APPEAR THAT I UNDERESTIMATED THE PROFOUND MENTALITY OF THE GOOD PROFESSOR.







NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...



## A BATTY BARRAGE OF BOMBASTIC BULLETINS: BURSTIN' WITH BI-PARTISAN BANTER, BARE-FACED BANALITY, AND UNABASHED BULL!

#### THE WRAP UP

## THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Ward 6's Map: On Sale Next Week

**FANTASTIC FOUR** - 81 The androids return to do damage to the city. But the gang is up to the task, with the aid of Reed.

SPIDER-MAN 247: We can't wait to see what's next, Rom! The legend of Kraven the Hunter. And remember, the Green Goblin's still out there.

AVENGERS - 36 Cap'ate to save the  
Earth from Gorgon the Bamboo Man  
and the terrible rampage of the  
super-evil Master of Power, HAWKEYE!

DAREDEV L 26 At 227 The 50-50' den  
11-12 Metres 20-25' above ground with  
the remains of a tree trunk in a  
hole 4' 7"

**THOR** (18) See the end of "Thunder-bolt" in the *Index* at the beginning of this section. Thor is the chief deity with the Norsemen, the *Thor* of the *Scandinavians*.

STRANGE TALES 155 Now I say to you  
the greatest thing in man is with  
himself. And the greatest thing in  
the world is the love of man. These are  
the two greatest things in the world.

Sgt. FORT 40th Infantry's favorite Hotel  
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He is a good man and a good soldier.

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## Mutant Mail-Box

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Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

First of all, I would like to congratulate every one of you on the superb job you're doing on the X-Men. Issue #27 was undoubtedly one of your better efforts. I was glad to see the inclusion of one of my favorite villains, the Puppet Master, up to his usual deviltry. Since he escaped at the end, I trust that he will return for a future bout with the X-Men. As for the Mimic, I hope you are not planning on making him deputy leader permanently. Of all the X-Men, only Scott is really qualified to serve as deputy leader to Professor X. The X-Men's new red belts are a great deal more colorful than the dull yellow ones they wore previously. Also, keep Marvel Girl's costume like it is now, as it makes her look more feminine.

Wally Daniels, 218 W. Seneca  
Tampa, Fla. 33812

Will do, Wally! Glad you liked the Puppet Master, ol' buddy. If he doesn't return another couple of times (Wouldja believe a thousand?), no one will be more surprised than we! The Mimic, however, is a real enigma! No one knows what his fate will be — least of all us! It's hard to explain, but after a while these stories almost seem to write themselves — which is why we're never completely certain what's coming next — unless we've already written it! But, don't worry, Mr. D. — there's one thing you can always be positive of — no matter what we do, we're certain to make half our readers hate us! (And, since half of them probably already hate us, that'll leave us with none! Oh well . . . we've still got Honest Irv!)

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

The X-MEN, which is my second favorite after Spidey, wasn't up to par this month, I'm afraid. The only thing that can be said for #27 was the guest appearances of Spidey, Quicksilver and Scarlet Witch, and the F.F. (Well, their doll likenesses, anyway!) I think this was a cute idea, and one which I would like to see pursued in other mags. If I remember correctly, about two years ago, Jean had it bad for Warren, and Scott was the unnoticed one. What has happened since that time . . . like why the sudden switch? Also, in #27, why did you bother to make Warren a fallen Angel? (Sorry about that!) It added nothing whatever to the story, except to give us a little insight into his personality. Please tell me something before I go mad — you've stated in the past that Warren began to grow his wings at the age of 13. How, in the name of Marvel, did his parents fail to notice this "slight" difference in their son? I mean, six foot wings are not something a person can easily hide! By some chance, did you get the idea for the character of Angel from Ray Bradbury's story "Uncle Einar"? Just one last thing — what have I been doing wrong? I've lived in New York City all my life, I've gone to college in N.Y., to Broadway, Central Park, everywhere. So why haven't I been lucky enough to be in one of your inevitable crowds when Spidey or the X-Men come swinging by???

Judy Axelrod, 452 E. 98th St.  
Brooklyn 12, N.Y.

You were, Judy! We saw you there ourselves, a few

weeks ago! But, you were too busy reading X-MEN to notice! Next time we'll tap you on the shoulder! As far as Angel's wings are concerned, we seem to remember her explaining somewhere that he went to boarding school at an early age, which is why his parents didn't spot his feathery appendages! (— And if you ask why the gang at the boarding school didn't notice, we'll never talk to you again!)



Dear Stan, Roy, and Don,

Hurray for the Mimic! I was overjoyed by his return. He should stay with the X-Men. The possibilities for his future are endless. The changes in the X-Men's uniforms were for the better, especially Jean's head gear. Issue #27 was very good. It was a definite improvement over the preceding two issues. Since the Cerebro picks up mutants with special powers, it should pick up all mutants now alive and those newly born. Yet, the Cerebro picks up mutants suddenly as if they did not exist a few minutes before! The Cerebro seems to cover the entire world, or at least most of it. Therefore, many mutants should be registering all the time. If the coverage of the Cerebro is so large, how do these evil mutants get picked up by it so sporadically? And exactly what is the coverage of the Cerebro? Dwight Higgins, 2211 Forest Oaks Dr. Dallas 28, Tex.

We were hoping you wouldn't ask, Dwight! Oh well —! The way we figure it, Cerebro works on a spot-check principle, sending out beams at random. Naturally, it takes a little while for these constantly criss-crossing beams to zero-in on a menacing mutant. However, the closer any evil mutant comes to the school, the closer he gets to the source of the beam — meaning that it will pick him out quicker than if he were further away — even though Cerebro's coverage is actually worldwide! Hey! How about that? We actually answered

one! (We don't know how correct we are—but even a wrong answer isn't easy!)

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

How about an issue where our heroes go on vacation and fight separately? Also, keep the Mimic in the X-MEN, I had written before to get rid of him, but I'm changing my mind.

Mark Squires, 217 So. Connecticut Ave.  
Atlantic City, N.J.

Okay, Mark—we'll tear up your first letter and make a new entry in our Marvel computer's memory banks. As for our merry mutants going on vacation and fighting separately—we could never make so momentous a decision without months of discussion, analysis, and somber soul-searching. We'll put it at the top of the agenda for our next international conclave, lad, and as soon as a decision is reached, we'll announce it on these pages. (Of course, we may all be too old to care by then, but that's show biz!)

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

All right, you guys—enough is enough! In F.F. #8 you showed the Puppet Master as he fell out of a 4 or 5 story window. Reed even said that they saw him lying on the ground. Then in STRANGE TALES #133 he's back again fighting the Human Torch and Thing. At the end of the battle he is turned into a statue by his ray. Now, in X-MEN #27, he's back alive and kicking! What's he got? Nine lives?? I know you guys have trouble keeping dead guys dead, but this is ridiculous! 'Nuff said!

Charles Ottosen, 109 Geneva St.  
Medford, Ore. 97501

Rascally Roy says it isn't fair, Charlie! It was Sneaky Stan who left P.M. lying on the ground, and then later turned him into a statue—but now, just because Roy did what comes naturally and picked himself out a good villain, you (and a zillion other sharp-eyed Marvelites) have him on the spot again! So, it's up to us to save our swingin' scriptster—and the only way is for you frantic ones to send us your own explanations! A thankful Mr. Thomas will rush you your tarnish-proof no-prize by return no-mail! Okay?



Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

Man, those amazing mutants are taking over Marvel-dom. The X-Men are the greatest characters since Little Orphan Annie came to town. I read every issue printed and #27 was the ut-utmost. I really go for a combination of dramatic drama, suspenseful suspense, and lovely love. (Everybody can't be perfect.) I've never commented adversely before, but one knock can't do any harm—or can it? Well, anyhow, I always liked the idea of the big bad super-villains appearing several times for revenge—or maybe even for a homecoming party. In issue #27 I realized you seldom do this. It seems to me that you should do this more often. I'd like to see some oldies like the Blob, Unus, and Magneto. Well, here's to your health—till Scott gets contact lenses!

Robert Levy, 63-09 108th St. (3L)  
Forest Hills, N.Y.

Thank you, Bobby boy! Say! What an idea! That may be just what he needs—contact lenses! If only we could find an old villain who had been an optometrist and bring him back, we could grant both your wishes! But, till then—Face Front!—You never know when Magneto will be dropping in for tea!

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

Here I am sitting in my house writing to you from the cold country known as Canada. And, in case you didn't know it—Canada is also the country of X-Men readers! Funny I should mention the X-Men—'cause all I can say for them is WOW! X-Men #27 was the best issue I've ever read, and, having read 20 issues of that mag, I think I know what I'm talking about! Roy Thomas has now become as good a writer as Stan. (Don't feel bad, Stan.) The X-Men is by far your best comic. I liked the return of the Mimic, and I hope very much that he becomes an X-Man. The red belts are good, but I don't think much of Marvel Girl's new head-piece. Oh, and I liked the idea of having Spidey, Wanda, and Quicksilver as guest stars. Please give us more guest stars in the future. And continue stories for at least three issues—that's an order! I guess I'm the millionth one to tell you, but bring back Magneto! Now, until the next time the Prof goes to the Barber Shop—I'll be writing you.

P.S.: Don't forget that an X-Man a day keeps bad mutants away!

Ron Liberman, 32 Crispin Cres.  
Willowdale, Ont., Canada

That's a pretty swingy little slogan you tossed at us, Ron! Given enough time, a thing like that could become almost as popular as the Edsel! Glad you feel that Roy is becoming such a sterling scripter—and, don't feel too bad about Stan—he's not the least bit upset. He only pasted that picture of the Rollicking One on his dart-board for laughs!

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

How in the name of good common sense could you make the Mimic the new deputy leader? The Mimic? The X-Men's most deadly foe? Verily, doth the shock still cast an aura of sadness about me. It wasn't bad enough that Marvel Girl had to leave, but you must also cause dissension among two X-Men. Cyclops beats Angel by accident and resigns because he is unsure of his motives. He lost a certain amount of self respect when he resigned. Like a man, he should have continued to shoulder the responsibility just like he had in the past. Cyclops has always been my favorite, but his actions threw the spotlight on Angel, causing him to emerge as the hero who saved the day. At first, I began to suspect that Marvel Girl would return on a permanent basis, but after issue #27, I now realize that I have hoped in vain. She is becoming more used to being just plain Jean Grey. I implore you to bring her back. The best thing about #27 was the new costumes. I love the new styles—I only wish I could say the same for the rest of the mag. No criminal on Earth or elsewhere has damaged and demoralized the X-Men greater than two mortal enemies—Roy's pen and Stan's editing! S. Gorman, P.O. Box 971 Dalhart, Tex. 79022

Whew! We should'a quit while we were ahead! Any-way, since Roy's pen and Stan's editing are at fault, we can always get Roy another pen—but what do we do about Smiley? Where do you get another "editing"? At least you liked the new costumes, S.G.—so we're not a complete failure! If everybody feels the way you do, perhaps we can turn this into a successful fashion mug! Naw, probably not—can'tcha just picture the Beast in a pair of hip-huggers? And one other thing before we commit hara-kiri—don't give up on Cyke too quickly—we have a hunch he'll be getting back in your good graces before you know it—and then you can find something else to needle us about! But, keep the flame ever burning, faithful one—we still love ya!

NEXT ISH: You've never seen a villain like the cataclysmic Cobalt Man! (He may purposely look a bit like one of our harassed heroes—but you never saw a baddie like 'im!) And, in answer to about a zillion rabid requests (most of them from Scott Summers), you'll see the scintillatin' Cyke and the magnificent Marvel Girl battle as a team—while the high-flying Angel goes searching for a new romantic interest (and finds her, natch!). In short, we've got a brimm' bushful of changes and surprises coming up for you in the next big issue of THE X-MEN—if we can just remember them long enough to put 'em into action! They're outta sight, Marvelites!

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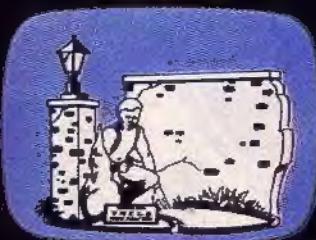
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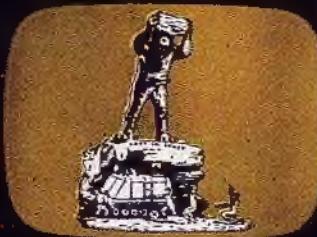
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